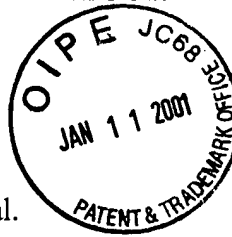


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Group Art Unit: 1772
Examiner: R. Dye

In re application of

Applicants : Andre SCHEFLEN et al.

Appln. No. : 09/115,229

Filed : July 14, 1998

For : POLYETHYLENE-BASED COMPOSITION
AND PROCESS FOR THE MANUFACTURE
OF ARTICLES SHAPED FROM THE
COMPOSITION

Atty. Dkt. : 32234-144216 (formerly SLVPE 3741.01)

RECEIVED

JAN 16 2001

AMENDMENT
AND
PETITION

January 11, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This paper is presented in response to the August 11, 2000 Office Action.

Applicants hereby petition for a two-month extension of time. A check for \$390.00 is enclosed. Please charge any missing and/or additional fees due to Deposit Account No. 22-0261 and advise us accordingly.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1 to 7 and 13 to 17 as follows:

1. (Amended) Polyethylene-based composition for the manufacture of pipes and pipe couplings, characterized in that the polyethylene exhibits a standard density, measured at 23°C according to ASTM Standard D 972, of greater than 940 kg/m³